full pay and allowances. In the meanwhile, some more educational institutions have come up throughout the State, which are mostly located in the rural areas with involvement of the local people. 1825 such institutions, which have come up between 1992 and 2006, have been recognized. These however, could not be provincialised by the State Government due to financial constraints. In order to provincialise the services of these teachers approximately an amount of Rs. 250 crore will be required annually and the State Government of Assam is not in a position to meet this expenditure out of its own resources. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam addressed to the Hon'ble HRM for providing the funds to the tune of Rs. 250 crore annually mainly for meeting expenditure on salary component to the State Government as a Special Central Sector Scheme under XI Five Year Plan.

(c) In view of the reply to part (a) and (b) above, question does not arise.

(d) and (e) There is no scheme in the Ministry for providing financial assistance towards salaries of teachers of private schools. The funds are being provided to State Govt. for development of Elementary Education under several Centrally Sponsored Schemes like, Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan, Mid-Day-Meal Scheme and Teacher Education Scheme, which do not cover private un-aided schools. The programme for Madarsas Modernization has been revamped as "The Scheme for providing Quality Education Madarsas (SPQEM)" for the Eleventh Plan period to assist children in Madrasas to acquire formal learning in subjects, like Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Languages etc.

Sanctioned teaching posts in IITs

168. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government has reduced the number of sanctioned teaching posts in Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of vacant teaching posts in IITs in the country and since when these posts have been lying vacant;

(d) the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken to fill up those posts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) As per meeting of SCIC dated 05.03.2005, the teacher-student ration in the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) was being taken as 1:9. This ratio was revised subsequent to receipt of communication dated 19.03.2008, from Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure which delegated the powers of creation of faculty posts in IITs to Ministry of human Resource Development, subject to the norm of faculty students ratio as 1:10.

(c) The faculty positions in IITs are as under:

IIT	Number of Posts		
	Sanctioned	In position	Vacant
Delhi	556	403	153
Bombay	550	434	116
Madras	511	410	101
Kanpur	406	315	91
Kharagpur	726	524	202
Guwahati	230	214	16
Roorkee	575	377	198

(d) and (e) Due to extremely good employment opportunities with attractive pay-packages as a consequence of globalisation, good B.Tech. students are not opting for higher studies *viz.* M.Tech. / Ph.D. / Research Assignments, etc., leading to faculty shortage. IITs have been employing suitable strategies to attract and retain their quality faculty members which include providing of good residential accommodation, good medical facilities, initial research grants and suitable schemes for sharing of consultancy charges. IITs have also increased their intake in Ph.D. programmes with a view to make available increased number of eligible persons to take up faculty positions.

Programme for mentally challenged children under SSA

169. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an inclusive education programme for mentally challenged children, launched under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan in some States has shown positive results by creating a favourable atmosphere, inculcating confidence, among the children and motivating the parents to educate such children;

(b) whether a total of Rs. 9.63 lakhs were spent on this programme during the last three years to benefit 2,058 children, and SSA has formulated a scheme for benefiting 3222 children with special needs, during 2008-09; and

(c) to what extent Government has introduced this programme all over the country and in which States these schemes have been started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) An amount of Rs. 424.99 crores was spent on the inclusive education component of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan during the last three years to benefit 22.26 lakhs children with special needs all over the country.